

Remarks

The objection to the drawings is noted, and a proposed amendment to include a view of the timer is enclosed. The specification and claims 1 and 11 have been modified to make the "means for automatically initiating a selected number of additional shorter time intervals..." be a part of the signal circuit.

The rejection of claims 1 – 5, 7 – 12 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,449,218 to Lluch, of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lluch, of claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lluch in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,301,196 to Daniel, of claims 14, 15 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Lluch and Daniel and claims 18 – 22 as being unpatentable over Lluch in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,365,496 to Tolan-Samilow is respectfully traversed.

Lluch has a timer and alarm that comes on at a set time when medicine is to be taken. If the medicine is not taken, the alarm continues to sound but at a different rate. The alarm will continue to sound until the Done/Medicine Taken button or the Clear Alarm button is manually pressed. In applicant's device, there is a preliminary signal or alarm notifying the person being trained (child) or the trainer that the signal for bathroom activity will sound soon thereafter. This gives the trainee/child time to go into the bathroom and be there when the actual alarm sounds. The actual alarm then starts the time period within which the potty activity is to occur. If no activity has occurred during the time period, a preliminary alarm alert sounds to provide notice that another alarm is about to

take place. When the actual alarm sounds soon thereafter, the timer is automatically programmed to establish another shorter time period for potty activity. When this shorter time period has almost expired, a prealarm alert again sounds to notify of the end of the first short period and the beginning of a second short period of time. When the second short period is about to expire, another prealarm alert sounds, and when the end of the second short period expires at the time of the actual alarm, the device automatically cycles to restart with the longer period and two shorter periods. If potty activity takes place during any period, the child stops the timer by activating the accomplishment switch which restarts the device on a new cycle. All activity is carried out automatically, and the device is programmable to function with times periods of varying durations.

Applicant's claims spell out these automatic features which distinguishes them from Lluich the disclosure of which is being used to reject all claims. The Examiner is respectfully requested to review the claims as now presented and reconsider the initial rejection of all claims.